

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Masaaki TAMAI et al. :
Serial No. NEW : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**
Filed April 15, 2004 : Attorney Docket No. 2004_0593

DISK ARRAY DEVICE
**(Rule 1.53(b) Continuation
of Serial No. 09/453,216,
Filed December 3, 1999)**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified U.S. Patent application as follows: